

June 3, 2014 Community Discussion Meeting - **CityArts Building**
 "Mayor's Youth Council"

Question Responses and Small-Table Discussion Summary

Attendance - 6 people (plus 3 Committee members and 4 staff)

Identifying long-term investment spending priorities; Determining how best for Wichita to grow over the next 20 years -

QUESTION: Prioritize future City spending within the following three general categories of infrastructure investment (Priority #1, #2, #3) (6 complete responses)

<u>Spending Priority</u>	<u>Categories of Investment</u>		
66% #1	17% #2	17% #3	Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has
17% #1	83% #2	0% #3	Making enhancements to what the city currently has
17% #1	0% #2	83% #3	Expanding the city's current system of public assets

QUESTION: Check future City spending priorities within each of the following types of infrastructure projects (6 complete responses)

Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has:

	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Repairing and maintaining existing local streets</i>	0	3	3
<i>Replacing and maintaining aging water & sewer lines</i>	0	3	3
<i>Maintaining existing parks and recreation centers</i>	0	3	3
<i>Maintaining existing cultural arts and entertainment facilities</i>	2	1	3
<i>Maintaining existing libraries</i>	1	3	2
<i>Maintaining existing transit system</i>	1	3	2
<i>Maintaining existing fire and police facilities</i>	0	1	5

Expanding the city's current system of public assets:

	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Constructing the NW Bypass (Goddard to Maize)</i>	3	3	0
<i>Adding new streets</i>	3	2	1
<i>Adding new water & sewer lines</i>	1	2	3
<i>Adding sewer treatment plant capacity</i>	1	5	0
<i>Adding new parks</i>	2	2	2
<i>Adding new fire stations and upgrading police facilities</i>	1	3	2

Making enhancements to what the city currently has:

	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Kellogg freeway improvements to Goddard and Butler County</i>	2	4	0
<i>Constructing South Area Parkway Bypass (around south Wichita)</i>	3	2	1
<i>Securing long-term water supply</i>	0	3	3
<i>Upgrading existing parks</i>	3	2	1
<i>Upgrading existing cultural arts & entertainment facilities</i>	2	2	2
<i>Upgrading existing libraries</i>	2	4	0
<i>Major transit system/service improvements (Transit Vision 2013)</i>	1	4	1

DISCUSSION: What projects and investments are most critical to Wichita's future?

- Maintenance of our existing streets, bridges and sidewalks
- Improvements to our existing parks
- Creating additional bike paths and on-street bike facilities
- Investment in new arts and entertainment facilities

QUESTION: Recognizing that growth in all areas of Wichita is necessary for enhancing the quality of life in our community, rank the following three Wichita growth areas according to which you think **best** supports the future growth, prosperity and quality of life of our community (1=best, 2=second best, 3=third best) (6 complete responses)

Rank

1	Established Urban Core	50% best	17% 2 nd best	33% 3 rd best
2	Downtown	17% best	66% 2 nd best	17% 3 rd best
3	Suburbs	33% best	17% 2 nd best	50% 3 rd best

% of Respondents Currently Living in:

Suburbs	50%
Established Urban Core	50%
Other	0%
Downtown	0%

DISCUSSION: How best should Wichita grow over the next 20 years?

- More new housing development focused around existing park and recreation areas – encourage infill development within the urban core before suburban expansion
- Encourage high-rise and compact development
- More activity centers are needed for our community
- Grow in a manner that will encourage new jobs and employment
- Expand and enhance our public transit system to increase accessibility and alternate modes of transportation

Creating an effective infrastructure investment decision-making process for the long-term -

DISCUSSION: What would you want an elected official to consider when making decisions about investing in new capital projects, modifying existing projects, or eliminating existing capital projects?

- Projects that demonstrate a positive return-on-investment, e.g. increase our tax base; improve/enhance our quality of life.
- Is the project a high priority?
- What are the trade-offs? How will this project take away from other important projects?
- Will this project benefit the many of our community or the few
- Priority needs to be given to maintaining what we have

Establishing important infrastructure investment decision-making criteria and considerations -

QUESTION: Listed below are important criteria and considerations to guide future community infrastructure investment spending and cost-reduction decisions. Please check the two (2) **most** important and the two (2) **least** important. (6 complete responses)

Importance		<u>Decision-making criteria & considerations</u>
<u>Least</u>	<u>Most</u>	
0	5	Promotes economic growth and job creation
1	1	Advances our community quality of life
0	1	Advances community health and safety
0	2	Creates a place where future generations will want to live, work and play
4	0	Priority as identified in existing adopted plans (e.g. the city/county comprehensive plan)
4	0	Essential for the future physical growth and development of our community
2	1	Demonstrated ability and commitment to maintain the project
0	1	<i>Other</i> – Maintaining and enhancing what we have

DISCUSSION: What are the most important decision-making criteria?

- Promote new job creation
- Creating a community where our young people will want to stay – a diversity and variety of good jobs, and more things to do/attractions
- Using a holistic approach to enhancing quality of life in our community
- Limiting the amount of new streets and public infrastructure
- Investments that will improve accessibility to health care services
- Invest in higher education options for our community
- Need to create a family friendly community and a more civil society

Any other things or issues needing to be addressed or considered in the Community Investments Plan? -

DISCUSSION:

- Put Wichita on the map ... Wichita needs to establish and improve its regional/national brand, image and identity. Outsiders have a false impression of our community
- High-speed internet access infrastructure is critical to the future of our community
- Wichita and Kansas are not known for having good/exceptional public education ... need more options in higher quality curriculum. Encourage academic competition among our schools ... allow charter school option
- Need cool retail outlets and teen-based entertainment options
- Need to create safer neighborhoods and more walkable neighborhoods
- Our activity areas/centers are too spread out and auto-dependent. Need to change this as we grow in the future
- More community education needed on all aspects/options of healthy living